

# NEWS FROM THE SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE

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## **SportsCenter of Connecticut/SCC Scholar Athletes of the Month for March** *Eleven Outstanding Student-Athletes Recognized*

**New Haven, CT** – Eleven student-athletes have been named The SportsCenter of Connecticut/Southern Connecticut Conference Scholar Athletes of the Month for March.

“Many thanks to the Sports Center of Connecticut for its continuing support of the SCC and the Scholar Athlete of the Month program,” said SCC Commissioner Al Carbone. “Each month we are recognizing a group of outstanding young men and women who are the ‘best of the best’ of this great conference and this month is no different.”

Honored student athletes must be a varsity letterwinner and have a 3.0/B average while demonstrating leadership qualities such as: being a positive role model; helping teammates overcome adversity; showing a commitment to self-improvement; or putting the needs of the team before themselves. Recipients receive a certificate, commemorative tee-shirt and a SportsCenter of Connecticut activity pass.

### **March 2008 SCC/Sports Center Scholar Athletes of the Month**

#### **Latosha Murray, Wilbur Cross**

A member of the Governor’s basketball and outdoor track squads, Latosha Murray ranks in the top third of her class. A key member of Wilbur Cross’ basketball squad that reached the Class L state semifinals, Latosha also serves as a church volunteer in her spare time. Wilbur Cross head girls basketball coach Michelle Cabaldon said, “Latosha is a fine student who gives 100 percent in the classroom and on the playing field.”

#### **Coulter Schmitz, Wilbur Cross**

A four-year letterwinner and two-sport (ice hockey and lacrosse) standout for the Governors, Coulter Schmitz is a standout student-athlete. Coulter sports a 3.7 grade point average ranks 10<sup>th</sup> in a class of 362 students. An inductee to the National, French, Latin honor societies, Coulter is also a member of Model UN. Wilbur Cross athletic director Jake Jarvis said, “Coulter is one of the finest student athletes here at Wilbur Cross. His dedication to academics and athletics is second to none and he is extremely deserving of this honor.”

#### **Kevin O’Hara, Xavier**

A two-sport (ice hockey and golf) standout for the Falcons, Kevin O’Hara ranks in the top third of his class with a 3.2 grade point average. A member of the National Honor Society, Kevin is a member of the Xavier Peer Ministry Team. The captain of the Falcons’ ice hockey squad, Kevin earned Second Team Division I All-SCC and Coaches All-State honors this winter. Xavier Director of Campus Ministry Andrea Hoisi said, “Kevin truly exemplifies what it means to be academically and athletically sound. He balances both admirably while excelling as a leader inside and outside of the classroom.”

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### **Brian Fitzpatrick, Xavier**

One of the top basketball players in the Southern Connecticut Conference, Brian Fitzpatrick has been a model student-athlete at Xavier. Brian ranks fifth in his class and sports an impressive 3.84 grade point average. A member of the National Honor Society, Brian recently completed an outstanding season on the hardwood. An SCC All-Quinnipiac Division honoree, Brian participated in the C.H.S.C.A. Senior All-Star Festival and was named a New Haven County Tap-Off Club Scholar Athlete. Xavier head basketball coach Michael Kohs said, "Brian is the type of student-athlete that every coach loves to have and to serve as an example for younger players to emulate."

### **Jen Fuggi, West Haven**

One of the top gymnasts in the state, Jen Fuggi has been a top student-athlete at West Haven. Jen holds a 4.0 grade point average and ranks seventh in her class. She is a member of the National Honor Society. On the mat, Jen is a two-time SCC all-around champion and Most Outstanding Performer. In addition, she was the New Haven Register's All-Area Most Valuable Player and earned First Team All-State honors. She will attend the University of Denver and intends to major in pre-med. West Haven athletic director Jon Capone said, "Jen has been a wonderful role model because she works extremely hard both athletically and in the classroom."

### **Salvatore Augliera, West Haven**

A two-year captain of the Blue Devils' swimming & diving squad, Salvatore Augliera has been an honor student at West Haven. He holds a 3.38 grade point average and ranks in the top 20 percent of his class. Very involved in the school community, Sal is a member of the West Haven marching band and DECA. Sal is also a member of the lacrosse team. West Haven swimming coach David Tremblay said, "Sal has been a wonderful captain and leader of the squad and extremely deserving of his honor."

### **Stephanie Gavilanes, Derby**

A member of the Red Raiders' soccer and outdoor track & field squads, Stephanie Gavilanes ranks fourth in her class with an impressive 3.88 grade point average. Stephanie served as captain of the soccer team this season. She also serves on the Derby High School Athletic Audit Committee. Derby athletic director Joe Oraziotti said, "Stephanie is a very dedicated young woman who is a positive role model for all students."

### **Terry Keegan, Fairfield Prep**

A two-sport (swimming and tennis) standout for the Jesuits, Terry Keegan has been top-notch in the classroom as well. Terry holds a 3.45 grade point average and is a member of the National Honor Society. Terry also volunteers his time as a Peer Tutor. A member of the four-time SCC champion swimming team, Terry was a key part of the Jesuits' All-State 200 yard freestyle relay squad. On the tennis courts, Terry plays in the top singles position and is a three-time All-Quinnipiac Division honoree. Fairfield Prep athletic director Bob Harris said, "Terry is a standout student-athlete, but most of all is a great kid with a great personality."

### **Rowan Kane, Fairfield Prep**

A three-sport (soccer, basketball and rugby), Rowan Kane has been a model student-athlete at Fairfield Prep. Rowan holds an impressive 3.76 grade point average and is a member of the National and French honor societies. This spring, Rowan will captain the Jesuits' rugby squad. Rowan is in the process of applying for admission to the United States Naval Academy. Fairfield Prep athletic director Bob Harris said, "Rowan has been a solid student who has been a contributing member of three sports at Prep."

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#### **Olivia Wilson, Mercy**

A three-sport (cross country, indoor track and lacrosse) performer for the Tigers, Olivia Wilson has been a standout student as well. Taking a full course load of advanced placement classes, Olivia sports an impressive 3.8 grade point average. A member of the National Honor Society, Olivia also serves on the Student Council and Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) committee. The winner of the St. Joseph's College Book Award, Olivia has also earned awards for her academic prowess in world history, civics and U.S. history. Mercy lacrosse coach Denna Grasso said, "Olivia has proven to be a determined and hard-working performer. She is the kind of student athlete coaches wish for."

#### **Megan Hanly, Mercy**

The captain of the Mercy indoor track and softball squads, Megan Hanly ranks eighth in her class with an impressive 3.9 grade point average. Taking a full course load of advanced placement courses, Megan also finds time to participate in a variety of school and community activities, volunteering with her local soup kitchen and Girls Scout troop in her hometown of Old Saybrook. A member of the National Honor Society, Megan earned the St. Anselm College Book Award. Mercy softball coach Jason Thody said, "Megan has been a positive influence on her teammates throughout her four years. Her unselfishness and team spirit has been an inspiration."

*The SportsCenter of Connecticut offers an exciting and unique combination of fun, recreation, lessons and competitive exercise! Located at 784 River Road (Route 110) in Shelton, the Sports Center of Connecticut offers and a premier weather-protected golf practice facility, 18-hole miniature golf course, baseball & softball batting stadium, lazer tag arena, fun bowl and the world's only double-decker ice arena. For more information, visit [www.sportscenterct.com](http://www.sportscenterct.com).*

*Founded in 1994, the Southern Connecticut Conference is in its 14th season of competition in 2007-08 with 23 member-schools and nearly 23,000 students. Recognized as the premier athletic league in the state of Connecticut, SCC member schools have captured over 250 state championships since the league's inception. More importantly, the SCC is recognized for its outstanding non-athletic programs and events, which attempt to break down barriers and build bridges of understanding to its students. For more information on the SCC, visit [www.SouthernConnecticutConference.org](http://www.SouthernConnecticutConference.org).*